MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

# THE CHART

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2004 WWW.THECHARTONLINE.COM Volume 65, Issue 5

**MOVIE WOES**

Local theaters lack discounts for students. Page 6

# Fall enrollment figures decline

## Numbers decrease by 144

By Nate Billings
Executive Editor

Total enrollment figures may be down but hopes are not.

A total head count of students revealed the student population is 154 students less than last semester, but the number of freshman increased by 85 students to 777. The number of hours freshmen are taking increased to 1,151 credit hours.

University President Julio León said the number of freshmen is encouraging.

"It's an indication that we had a large graduating class," he said. "We are very pleased about it. These are very positive signs that the enrollment figures will rebound."

The official count for all students is 5,256.

The Full Time Equivalency numbers, an average of enrolled hours to students enrolled, declined by only 35 hours.

León said the amount is small and means students are taking more hours compared to last semester.

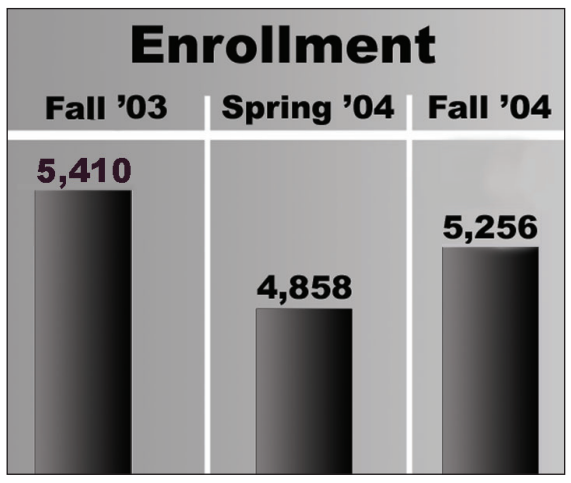



Illustration by Nate Billings/The Chart

Derek Skaggs, director of enrollment services, agreed the numbers are good news.

"I'm really pleased with the number of new freshmen and transfer students," he said.

Skaggs said the 1998, 1999 and 2000 freshmen classes were larger classes, and now that these classes are graduated, it is natural that a decrease in enrollment will be seen.

Skaggs pointed to several reasons for more freshmen this semester.

"Our Board of Governors and our president have been working to keep it (tuition) affordable," Skaggs said.

León and Skaggs also said Missouri Southern has not seen the same increase in tuition rates as other

TURN TO **FIGURES**, PAGE 9

# Gay Marriage Ban

## Debate over amendment continues after state votes

By Melissa Dunson
Diversions Editor

Marriage is one the fundamental rights of a democratic political system, but Missouri voters aren't sure they want to offer that right to everyone.

"It's wrong for them to deny loving couples public expression," said Jason Hare, junior Spanish major and president of Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity.

In August, Missouri voters went to the polls to make a resounding statement of their unity against same-sex marriage. Statewide, 91 percent of the precincts reported 70 percent in favor of a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. This was the first vote of its kind since the Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled a similar initiative unconstitutional, but it would not be the last. Louisiana voters followed Missouri's lead and on Sept. 18 voted in favor of a state constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Montana, Oklahoma, Oregon and Utah are scheduled to vote on the issue Nov. 2. Similar votes are pending in Michigan, North Dakota and Ohio.

"I just think that laws like this encourage prejudice," Hare said. "It's based on prejudice and emotional appeal."

Hare was expelled from Ozark Christian College in 2001 after openly expressing his homosexuality. For him, the issue is a personal one. The vote represented a devastating blow to a hard fought, but losing battle, but not an unexpected one.

"I wasn't surprised," Hare said. "It's really disheartening to think I grew up my whole life here and to think we encourage bigotry at the state level. My partner and I were watching T.V. when it (the vote) came in and I cried and was depressed the rest of the night."

Critics argue same-sex marriage is wrong because of the theory that it threatens the definition and thus the sanctity of marriage. Matt Hite, senior political science major and president of the Young Republicans, worries that if the definition of marriage is changed to include homosexual unions, will the legal loophole be stretched to include unions between a man and two women or a man and his horse.

"There are a lot of problems when legal loop

TURN TO **AMENDMENT**, PAGE 9

# Wireless Internet arrives

## Library, BSC first buildings on list

By Nate Billings
Executive Editor

Books are wireless, but so are many computers.

Wireless computer accesses are coming to Missouri Southern.

Steve Earney, assistant vice president for information services, said several buildings on campus will receive wireless Internet access within the next few weeks.

"It's really just a new service for students," Earney said.

He said the addition of Internet access would allow students to use more computers on the campus server than there are access points available now.

Spiva Library will be the first building to receive the wireless access.

"It makes sense logically for research purposes," said Wendy McGrane, library director.

Earney said there will be a trial-and-error period during the installation and he expects it to be a learning process.

"We'll put as many (access points) as it takes to make it work," he said.

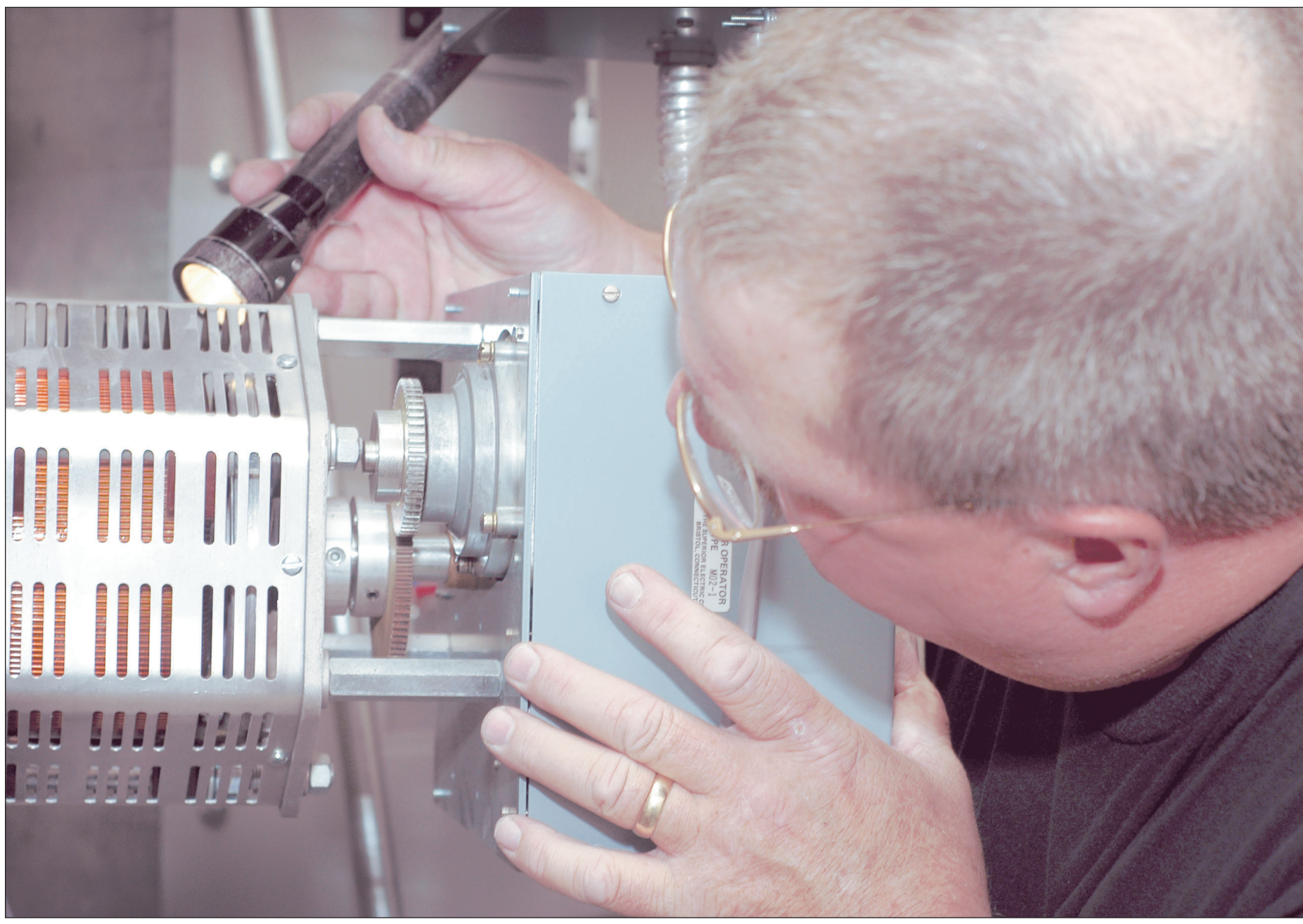
Earney said the library will have issues with the bookshelves which may block the signals from certain areas of the building at first.

The system has been several years in the works. Both Earney and McGrane said they have had students request the service before.

Approval for the service came just last week with a $175,000 budget for equipment and installation.

"It was a shock to me," Earney said.

TURN TO **WIRELESS**, PAGE 9



Adam Fast/The Chart

**Mike Fox, mechanical maintenance supervisor, inspects the dimmer switch that short-circuited in Cornell Auditorium Sept. 28 causing fire alarms to go off.**

# Electrical short sparks class cancelations in Matthews Hall

## Dimmer switch overheats, smoke triggers silent alarm

By Nate Billings
Executive Editor

Night classes in Matthews Hall were interrupted and later canceled Sept. 28 due to a faulty dimmer switch.

The switch overheated in a closet in Cornell Auditorium at 7:49 p.m. No one was in the auditorium at the time, but the silent fire alarm went off after smoke escaped beside the closet by the screen, moving into the rest of the hall.

"The room had quite a bit of smoke in it," said Bob Harrington, director of the physical plant.

Robert Frossard, public safety officer, was the second person to arrive on the scene after a custodian pulled the hand-unit fire alarm to alert the rest of the building to evacuate.

However, Frossard said the students did not evacuate upon the alarm and only evacuated the building after he came to the classrooms.

"A lot of these are evening classes," Frossard said. "People are not familiar with the alarm system or the routine."

He said the evening classes are not as prepared as day classes because drills focus on times when there are the largest populations of students in a particular building.

After Frossard came to the classes, the building was evacuated within five minutes.

The Joplin Police Department and Fire Department arrived at the scene soon after the students started leaving the building.

Harrington said there was no way to prevent the incident because one never knows when an electrical short will happen.

The dimmer was later removed, and classes were canceled due to the smoke dissipating through the building.

The auditorium was available for use, minus dimmers, the next day.

In such cases of alarm, public safety officers go through a routine to make sure everything is taken care of.

The first step is to secure the scene and assess the situation.

Then, the proper personnel are contacted as the building is cleared. Finally, the source of the alarm is located and secured.

Tim Woodward, fire marshal with the JFD, said the incident was reported as an electrical short.

"There was no fire, but smoke was generated," he said.

Woodward was not at the scene, but he had advice for anyone who finds him or herself in such a situation.

"One thing, students and teachers need to understand is that they should exit the building and remain outside until the fire department determines the validity of the alarm," Woodward said.

He said it is unfortunate that people did not recognize the alarm, but he said it does happen, and it is not the fault of the fire department.

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***THE CHART***
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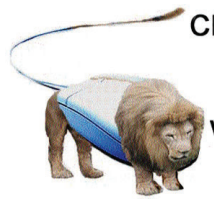
**WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK**

Saturday
Mostly Sunny
High: 68
Low: 41

Sunday
Sunny
High: 70
Low: 44

**ONLINE**



Click on the online edition of *The Chart* at www.thechartonline.com

Question of the week:
Should gays be allowed to marry?

# Senate runs into overtime

By Nate Billings
Executive Editor

Several discussions kept the Student Senate meeting in session for 45 minutes Sept. 29 even though Senate president Eric Ducommun, would like to see meetings kept to a half-hour length.

Eric Ducommun
Student Senate President

After appropriating funds to the Public Relations Student Society of America and the Missouri Southern International Reading Association, senators had several points of discussion over the Collegiate Middle Level Association's appropriation request.

The finance committee recommended $210 to cover the organization's need for registration fees at a conference in Minneapolis.

Several senators raised objections to the recommendation. The Senate then went into discussion only to come out of the discussion with a final vote to allocate $951.

The final consolidated reasoning for the approval was to cover the airfare as well as the hotel costs.

Ducommun approved of the discussions.

"I was so impressed with this meeting," Ducommun said. "I was impressed with them (the senators) already challenging ideas."

PRSSA and the MSSU IRA each received $1,000.

PRSSA will attend a networking reception in New York City and the MSSU IRA will attend a Missouri State Council of IRA conference where members will serve as conference ambassadors.

Another topic of discussion came up about the proposed recreation center.

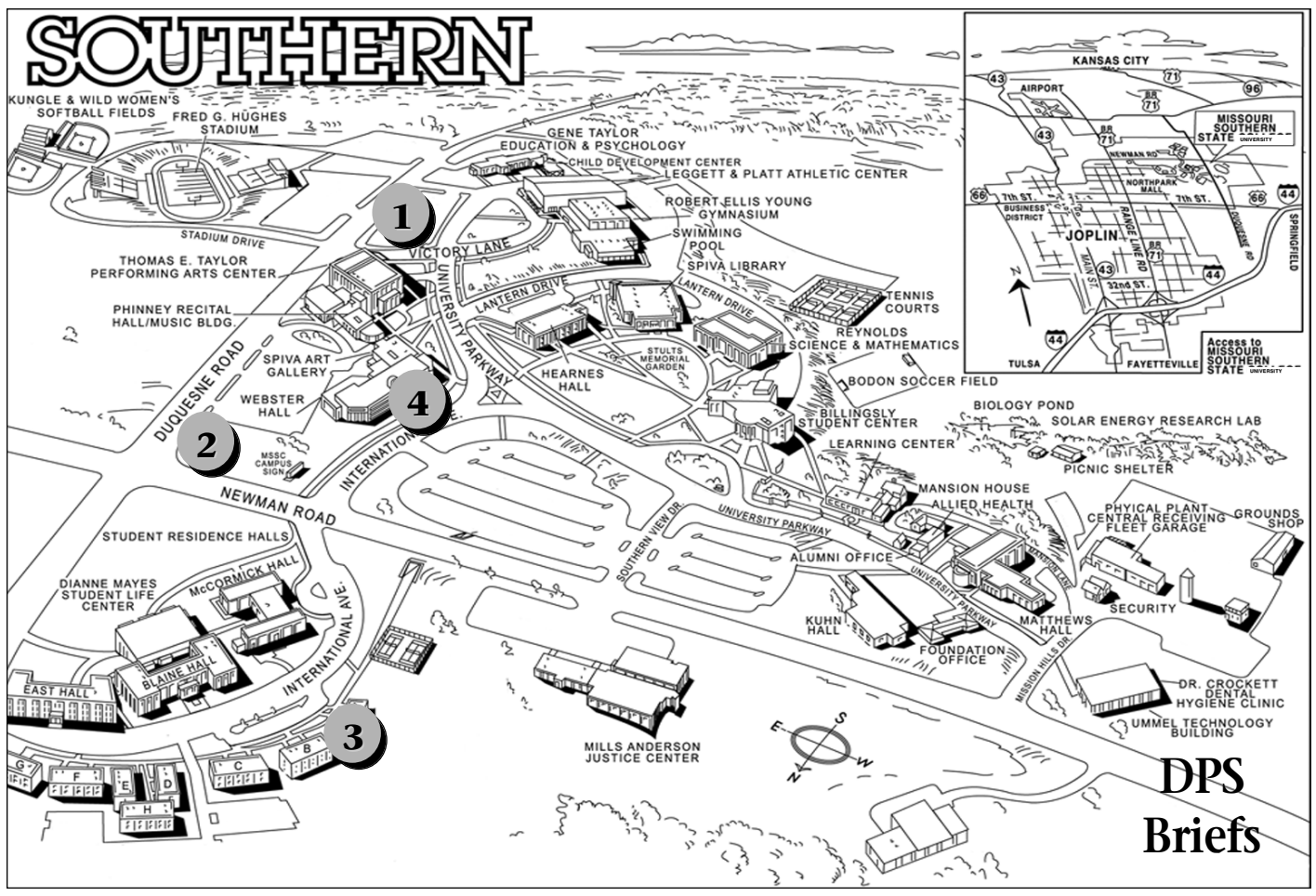
Junior student senator Eric Norris brought up the discussion.

"Southern has to offer something no other university has," he said. "Right now we have degrees, but all schools have that."

Norris said he would like to see work done early in the year to finish the project. He also said he would like to see the Board of Governors work on the center more this semester along with seeing the Senate back the proposition.

Norris said the Rec center

TURN TO **SENATE**, PAGE 8




DPS Briefs

# Stolen sign leaves frat lacking "A"

**1 Information**

9/22/2004

6:00 a.m.

While on patrol, security noticed a suspicious vehicle in staff parking. The vehicle was missing a permit and the license plates were expired. The vehicle identification number had been removed from the dash as well. The officer noticed wires hanging from the steering column.

JPD was notified of the vehicle, however the vehicle was not reported as stolen.

**2 Arson**

9/25/2004

1:28 p.m.

A security officer noticed smoke coming from the southwest corner of Newman Road and Duquesne Road.

The officer proceeded to the area and found three grass fires. Another officer arrived on the scene with a fire extinguisher and put out the fires. JFD was dispatched, but upon arrival, another fire south of the campus was spotted. The fire was stomped out.

JPD was notified by security of a possible arson, but no suspects or witnesses could be found.

**3 Theft**

9/26/2004

2:25 a.m.

Security was contacted in reference to a five foot wooden "A" stolen from the Kappa Alphas in Gockel Hall.

The fraternity members had no suspects. Security questioned a few students outside the building at the time, but no one had seen the incident, nor had anyone seen anyone by the building.

The item was worth around $15.

**4 Fire Alarm**
9/28/2004

4:55 a.m.

Security responded to an alarm in Webster Hall.

After a search of the building, no cause of the alarm could be found.

The alarm control was then reset, and the building was searched again.

*Compiled from Public Safety reports*

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## Wildcat Glades raises money for Audubon Center with music

An Audubon Center fund-raiser will be from 5-9 p.m. Oct. 9 in Wildcat Park. Tickets are $30 per person or $50 per couple.

There will be food, beverages and a silent auction. Live music will be provided by 32nd Street Band.

For more information contact Tony Robyn, executive director Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, at 623-2211.

## Wheels of Justice rolls onto PSU bringing witnesses of Iraqi war

At 7 p.m. Monday at McCray Hall auditorium at Pittsburg State University, the PSU Green Gorillas and Missouri Southern's SPEAK group will host the Wheels of Justice Tour.

The tour features a brightly painted bus with first-hand witnesses to the war in Iraq. The bus has been converted from a school bus and doubles as a mobile billboard and peace center.

For more information visit its website at www.justicewheels.org.

## Archeological society prepares slide presentation with artifacts

The Missouri Archeological Society will hold a special meeting with a slide presentation on the archeological excavations of Henson Cave and Henson Rockshelter at 7 p.m. Oct. 14 in Webster Hall Room 105. Artifacts will be on display.

The group will also discuss the possibility of a MAS chapter being formed in the Joplin area.

Anyone with stone artifacts wishing to have them identified can bring them to the meeting.

## Students may rent camping equipment from Stegge Hall

Student Services and Campus Recreation is sponsoring the Outdoor Adventure program this semester.

Students may rent equipment from the Outdoor Adventure equipment center in the basement of Stegge Hall.

The hours are from 2-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Rentals can be picked up Fridays and returned before 4 p.m. Mondays.

Sleeping bags can be rented for $5, tents for $10, coolers for $3, backpacks for $4 and games for $2.

For more information on rentals call 659-4463.

## Special Olympics looks for more volunteers at bowling meet

Special Olympics is looking for volunteers to help at 4th Street Bowl and Bowl East at 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Oct. 8.

Volunteers who come will be assigned a lane upon arrival. Free T-shirts will also be available for participants.

## Registration opens for 600-hr law enforcement acadamy

During the first week of October, registration for the 600-hour State Certified Basic Law Enforcement Academy will begin at Southern. Financial aid is available for those who qualify.

For more information, call Wayne Thomason at 625-9684.

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# Homecoming King and Queen

## Close relationship makes royalty win special

### Freshmen Orientation pair excited by win

By Noelle Ott
Staff Writer

Lights flash throughout the stadium and clapping precedes them as they enter the field. The excitement has been running wild for weeks now. Suddenly all the work seems worth it, especially for Missouri Southern's new king and queen.

This year, Southern students elected Derick White, senior history education major, and Ashley Cox, junior dental hygiene major, as their new Homecoming king and queen.

When they found out they had won, the two couldn't believe it.

"It was a surreal moment," Cox said.

"I was surprised," White said. "I was glad we got it together."

The two have had a close relationship as far as friends go.

Working as Freshman Orientation leaders, they have has a unique opportunity to be able to get to know one another.

"[Derick] is someone everyone is comfortable with," Cox said, "He won't ask you to do something he wouldn't do himself. He's one of those good friends you always look for."

White and Cox have known each other for three years. They play intramural sand volleyball together and share a love for Jesus.

Cox went on a mission trip to Peru a few years back, and White has been able to go on a mission trip to Wyoming.

"We work well as a team," White said. "Ashley keeps it [Freshman Orientation] structured."

"And Derick keeps it fun," Cox said.

Although neither one has much free time in between school and work, they spend their time doing what they love.

White is a first-year baseball player for the Lions, as a catcher, and he also coaches women's volleyball for Carl Junction High School. But he has two favorite pastimes that don't include school or even work.

"Sleeping and eating Chinese food are my two loves," White said.

Cox is a staff assistant for Southern's apartment buildings and said her family is essential to her.

Cox and White competed against 12 women and nine men for the position of Homecoming royalty and wanted to tell everyone they were grateful to the people who voted for them and also to the people who gave up their time to help them campaign for queen and king.

They were crowned at the Homecoming picnic Sept. 24 and recognized at the Sept. 25 football game.

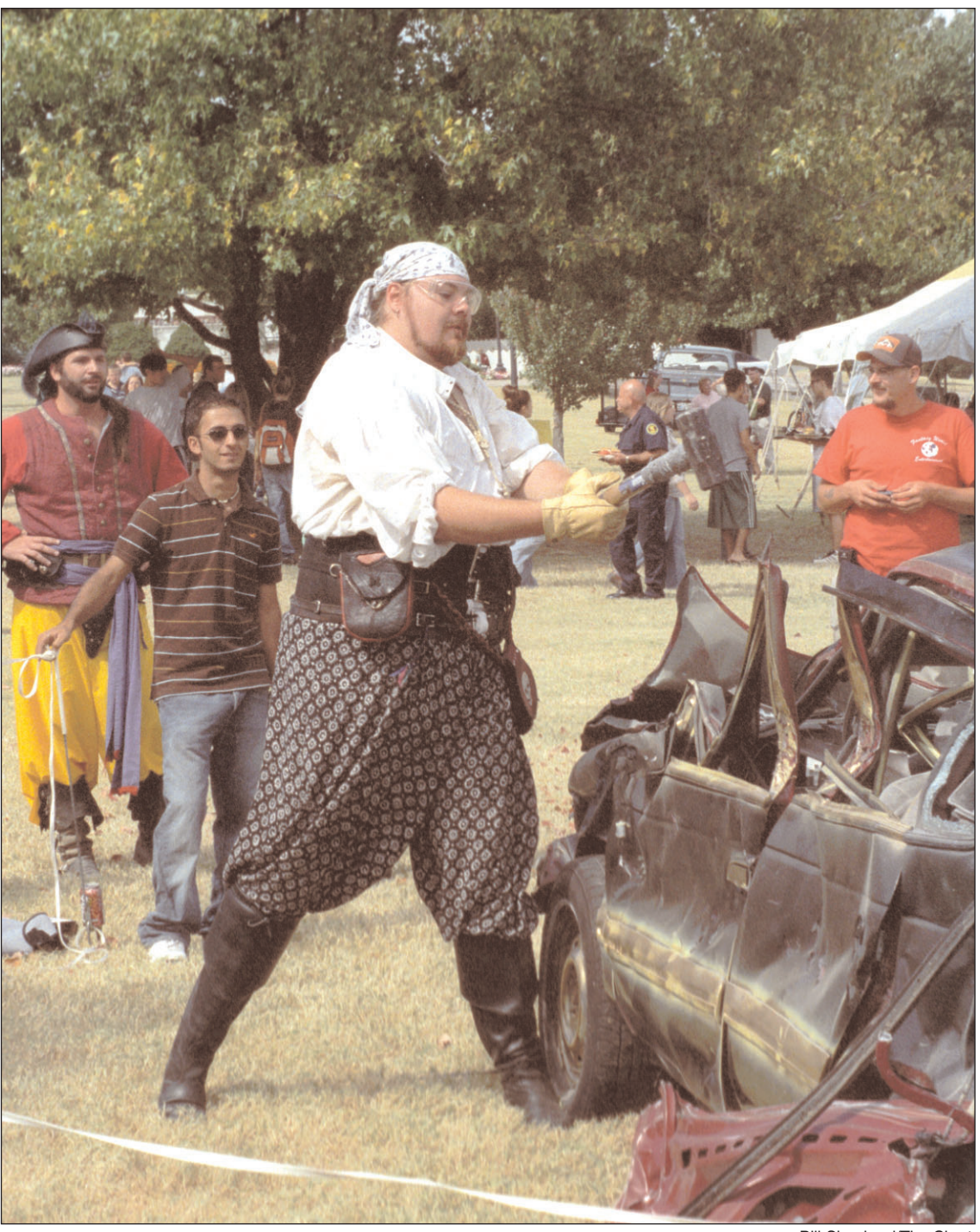
They were also wanting to say thanks to those who showed up to support them when they were announced as the winners Sept. 24.

"We wouldn't have won without them," White said.

Bill Shepherd/The Chart

**Derick White and Ashley Cox won the honor of Homecoming king and queen. The pair couldn't believe it when they heard the announcement.**

## CRUSHIN' CARS



Bill Shepherd/The Chart

**E. the Bosun, a member of the band The Bilge Pumps from Dallas, takes his turn at the Sigma Pi car bash. The Bilge Pumps performed at the Homecoming picnic Sept. 24.**

# Employers make annual trip for Career Development Day

By Hallie Hocker
Staff Writer

Freshmen through seniors will all have a chance to plan and prepare for their future careers at Career Development Day on Wednesday.

There will be several employers and graduate schools with booths set up from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Billingsly Student Center.

"It is important for students to acquaint themselves with the types of organizations that recruit students with bachelors and two-year degrees," said Patricia Hurley, director of career services.

This year's theme for Career Day is Career Roads: Plan Your Destination.

The exposition offers students an opportunity to gather information from graduate schools and employers and to develop a career plan. They can also find out about internship opportunities.

"Employers tend to hire students with practical experience and internships," Hurley said.

While it may seem juniors and seniors may benefit the most from the Career Development Day, Hurley encouraged freshman and sophomores to attend and get an early start on their career plans.

Also, during the Career Development Day, Missouri Southern alumni will inform students interested in what the career world is like in their respective departments.

In preparation for this career day, students are encouraged to take advantage of "Résumé-O-Rama" from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Monday and Tuesday in BSC 207.

Lynsey Schwabrow, career services student coordinator, said students could stop by to have their résumés quickly critiqued without scheduling an appointment. This is another service students can take advantage of in preparation for their future careers.

> *"It's important for students to acquaint themselves with the types of organizations that recruit students with bachelor's and two-year degrees."*
>
> **Patricia Hurley**
> *Director of Career Services*

Some of the organizations represented include Arvest Bank; Asay Publishing Company; BKD, LLP; Child Support Enforcement; Cintas Corporation; Cleveland Chiropractic College; Community Bank & Trust; Contract Freighters, Inc.; CoxHealth; Drury University; Forest Institute of Professional Psychology; Freeman Health System; the Internal Revenue Service; the Johnson County Sheriff's Department; the Kansas City (Kans.) Police Department; KMXL Mix 95.1/KDMO Fabulous 1490; the Kansas City Police Department; Leggett & Platt, Inc.; Missouri Division of Youth Services; Network Enhancement Systems, Inc.; Xerox Corporation; St. John's School of Medical Technology; The Joplin Globe; the U.S. Marines; the University of Missouri - Kansas City and Zimmer Radio Group.

For more information, visit the Career Services Web site at www.mssu.edu/career.

# Technological departments prepare plans for trip to Australia

### Excursion set for 12 days of May 2005 intersession

By Kathleen Cunningham
Staff Writer

Kangaroos, poisonous snakes and Missouri Southern students all have one thing in common: they can be found in Australia.

The Practical Student Nursing Department and the entire Technological Departments are considering a trip to Australia.

The study trip will take place during intersession after final exams in May.

"We are going to Australia and possibly New Zealand and the Great Barrier Reef," said Sheila Hart, nursing instructor.

"All technological departments and their interested students will be going."

The trip will be about 12 days long.

The department is currently taking bids from travel agencies.

The information will be turned into the Institute of International Studies by October 18.

"Twenty-three nursing students have expressed interest and the Criminal Justice Department will have a large group going also," Hart said.

Others are working on the trip as well.

"Pending approval by the international institute competing for a grant," Richard Spencer, assistant professor of criminal justice administration," said. "They decide which study trips to fund. The whole school of technology from practical nursing, criminal justice, dental hygiene, computer science, industrial technology and MIMS."

Spencer is the chairman of a committee set up for the Australian trip.

"We will visit Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, and may spend a day or two in the Northern Territory the Great Barrier Reef," he said.

"We hope students and faculty will have an opportunity to visit sites in their own fields, nursing to health clinics and criminal justice to police departments and prisons and hopefully a trial."

Spencer said there will be benefits for the students socially as well.

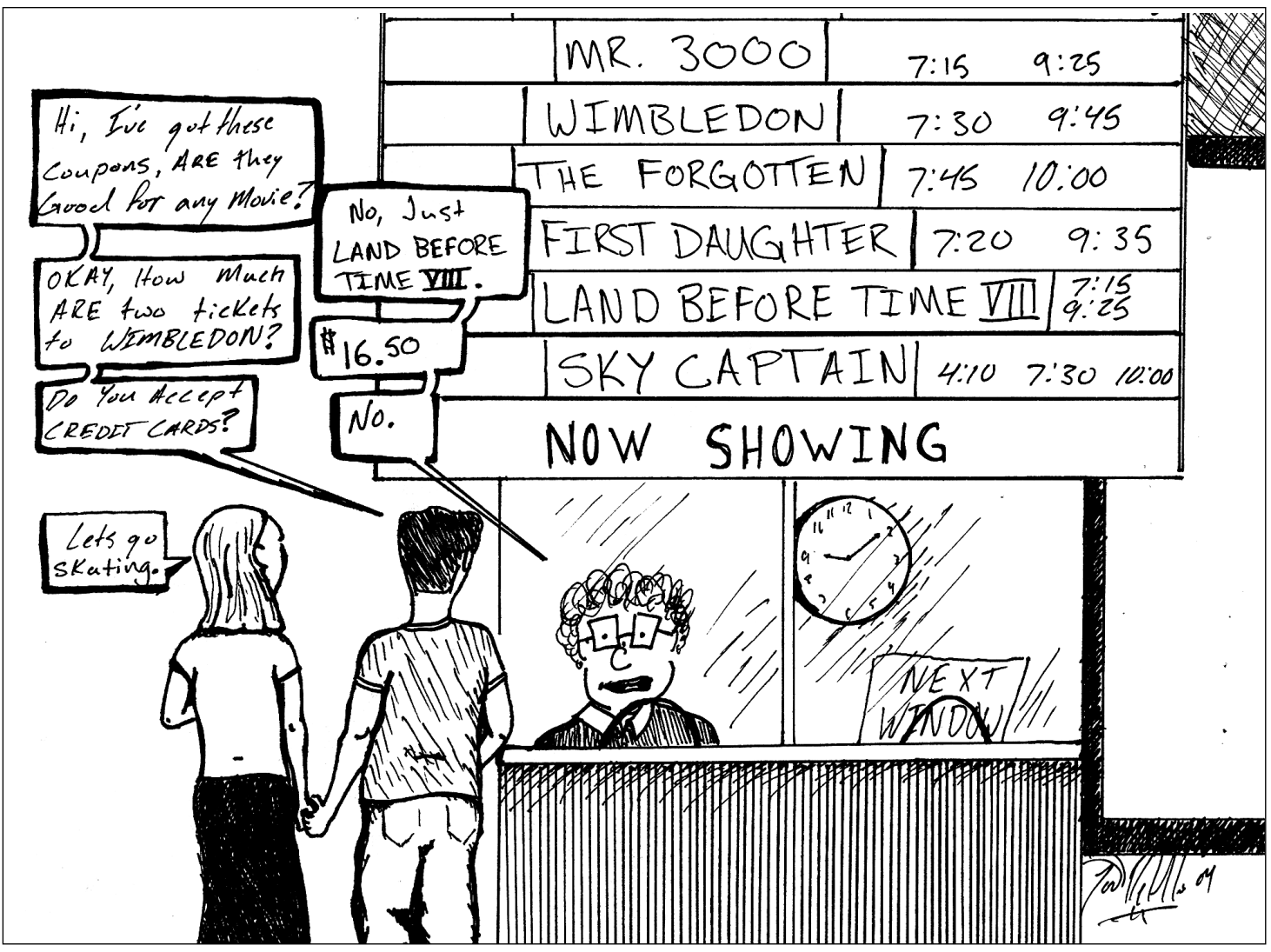
"The trip will give faculty and students a chance to strike up a friendship with their peers," he said.

The ideal numbers would be 20-30 students and two to three faculty, a 10-1 ratio.

Because the trip is in the early planning stages, Hart said not too many students knew about the trip.

Hart said the trip will give the various technology departments an opportunity to learn about how their various fields of study operate in Australia.

Spencer said any interested students may e-mail him at spencer-r@mssu.edu.


MR. 3000 7:15 9:25
WIMBLEDON 7:30 9:45
THE FORGOTTEN 7:45 10:00
FIRST DAUGHTER 7:20 9:35
LAND BEFORE TIME VIII 7:15 9:25
SKY CAPTAIN 4:10 7:30 10:00
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No, Just LAND BEFORE TIME VIII.
OKAY, How Much ARE two tickets to WIMBLEDON?
$16.50
Do You Accept CREDIT CARDS?
No.
Lets go SKating.
NEXT WINDOW

# Joplin lacks decent cinemas

## Chart Opinion

With the ever-increasing prices of movie tickets, several people enjoy the discounts they can receive at the box office.

Senior citizens, military personnel and students all can receive discounted rates at cinemas, but not in Joplin.

Northstar 14, who is owned by Wallace Theaters, does not offer discounts for students. It is a company policy for Wallace not to offer these discounts.

So what can be done to ease the cost of a movie ticket?

Aside from the always-popular solutions of waiting until movies are released at the $1 theaters or on video, students can visit Missouri Southern's ticket office on the bottom floor of the Billingsly Student Center and purchase Supersavers. These are accepted at Northpark 14 only for movies that have been out for at least two weeks.

These Supersavers are sold by Wallace Theaters to a broker, who in turn sells the tickets to the Southern ticket office.

Aside from the lack of discounts, Joplin suffers in the range of films shown. Mainly only major movies, mostly with major actors, make their way to Joplin, but some truly unique and provocative movies have nary been seen by Joplinites, at least not in a theater.

Joplin needs a place to compete with Northstar 14. With any luck, a company such as Cinemark USA or Dickinson Theatres will set its sights on Joplin with a new theater, one with discounts for students and other groups and a broader selection of films.

## Campus Voice

By Monique Jamerson

# Do you think theaters need student discounts?

"I feel that we deserve a discount. After all, we do contribute a lot to the economy on a local level."

**Belinda Cotten**
Junior
International
Business Major

"I think it sucks that the movie theater doesn't offer a discount. I wish more places offered student discounts."

**Matt Wall**
Junior
Criminal Justice
Major

"I think students would go to the movies more often if a student discount were offered. It would also help the movie gain more business."

**Seafha Blount**
Senior
Biology
Major

"I think it would be nice if the theater offered a discount because most college students don't have a lot of money."

**Crystal Delgado**
Sophomore
Psychology
Major

"I think it's bad that the theater doesn't give a student discount. We do make up most of their business, so a discount should be given."

**Scott Campbell**
Senior
Art
Major

## Editor's Column

# 'Always dream the impossible, reach for the improbable'

**Adam Fast**
Director of Photography

When I was a kid, I had quite an imagination. I could turn dang near anything into some kind of airplane, spaceship or any other vehicle with a lot of power.

Things have changed as I've grown up. I think a lot more logically and practically now, which is good in some situations and bad in others. I had many dreams when I was young: astronaut, pilot, executive, tycoon. My goal in elementary school was to be in the encyclopedia when I grew up. I haven't abandoned that goal, and never will, but for the time being it's sitting on the shelf waiting for its time.

I have had quite a journey through life, going through one dream to another, only to move on again. But while I'm trying to figure out my own dreams I have to be conscious about what is actually my dream and what someone else is just dreaming for me. In my case, I can track this evolution of dreams pretty easily.

In elementary school I wanted to be an astronaut or a pilot. Sometimes it varied into something closely related, but it usually stuck to one of those two things.

In middle school I hovered between two things — the computer geek that I was rapidly becoming and some type of mechanics. I'm not a huge fan of getting my hands or clothes dirty so I didn't fully dive into the mechanical world. I've had my fair share of working on various lawnmowers. By "working on," I mean in most cases disassembling to the point that it takes serious help to get something working again. The computer stage lasted until sophomore year in high school.

I segued into the rock-star phase for part of my sophomore year; it didn't last long, for good reason. Eesh.

I then fell back into the computer phase and stayed there until probably a year ago.

I love computers — everything about them. Hardware, software, I like it all. Different Linux distros, BSD distros, Windows (not so much) and most recently Mac OS X. I've done software and programming for several years now; it's what pays the bills. I definitely enjoy it, too. I was even voted the "most likely to be the next Bill Gates" in high school. Most everyone talked about how rich I was going to be. But I never really cared. I was in it for the love of the field. (And as a side note, I've never wanted to be anything like the previously mentioned — no way.)

But as I've grown up and begun to understand myself more fully, a new true love has emerged — photography, videography, and the visual arts. On top of this, I feel a calling to be involved in the ministry, but praise God it's not preaching or anything too public (I still get too nervous with an audience). I'm called to ministry in a technical aspect.

It may sound strange, but it works.

My favorite movies of all time are the *Back to the Future* trilogy. Not because they were beautifully filmed, had great special effects or a plot line that kept you glued to your seat and the screen, but because the message behind them is so powerful. No matter how unpopular or crazy you are thought to be, you can accomplish things with some hard work.

The big point I'm trying to make here is that everyone else's dreams for you will be different than your own. Sure, you can follow what others dream for you and not be creative, but is that living? Be your own person. Always dream the impossible and reach for the improbable.

*Adam Fast is the director of photography for* The Chart. *His opinions are his own and do not necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff.*

## In Perspective

# 'Messy' system turns young voters away from polls when most needed

"Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote." — George Jean Nathan

**Dr. Jeff Martinek**
Assistant Director of the Honors Program

Never in the history of the human race have a people been presented with so many trivial choices — at the very time they should be concentrating on significant ones.

I'm not talking about the obvious consumer choices — McDonalds vs. Burger King, Nike vs. Reebok, Play Station vs. X-Box. Even if we decide on Coke instead of Pepsi, we are still obliged to choose which of the current 12,000 versions we want: Caffeine-Free-Low-Carb-Cherry-Vanilla-Ginseng-Viagra Coke anyone?

And then there's the MTV Awards, the Espys, the online Jay-Z vs. Nelly polls, the opportunities to "have you voice counted" about which Survivor should be voted off the island, who should bed the Bachelor, or become the next Apprentice, or the next bride of Joe Millionaire or the most likeable mommy on "Trading Spouses" — wait, I meant "Wife Swap."

As Americans, we glory in these choices — it's the essence of our freedom, isn't it? And in the age of interactivity we demonstrate it with a vengeance. On the night of the finals of the first "American Idol," the two largest phone carriers in the United States reported that call volume was more than 230 million calls above normal. 230 million calls. Just to decide which pre-fab nonentity would be pronounced an international fake superstar.

Why then does the United States have by far the lowest voter turnout of any Western society — I mean turnout for votes which actually effect whether we go to war, what rules we will live under, which rights will be upheld and how our money (and our children's money) will be spent?

Why, furthermore, do young people — those who will be most affected by the political decisions now being made — show the least interest among any group of Americans in politics and voting?

The fact is citizens in the 18-25 year range turn out at a rate of approximately 32 percent in presidential elections. And the rate for that age range amongst those lacking a college education is a pathetic 21 percent.

Nationwide, young adults say the biggest reason they don't vote is because "they do not care." This is followed by "voting does not make a difference," "not informed" and "too busy/not enough time."

Too busy? Perhaps mastering Madden NFL 2004 and scanning the 'net for Eminem remixes are big time commitments. Or maybe there are better reasons for youthful apathy.

If you are not in college, you are statistically likely to be working a series of dead-end retail and/or manufacturing jobs, with no property, no kids and no "investment in the system."

If you are in college you are probably struggling to balance schoolwork with your part-time job(s). You may be unsure about how and where to vote while living away from home.

But most likely, you, as a young person, have grown cynical about politicians, who seem to consist of two types: either mealy-mouthed hypocrites or attack-ad spewing jerks.

It is to you I make my appeal.

First, let's agree. American politics in the Age of television is a brutal and degrading blood sport. Who could fail to be disgusted by the constant sniping, the dishonest political commercials, the pompous pundits trying to tell us what to think? It's enough to make us ready to concede to Winston Churchill his famous claim that "Democracy is the worst form of government," as long as we remember the rest of the sentence, "with the exception of all

TURN TO **CHOICES** PAGE 8

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY — JOPLIN

THE CHART

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Letters to the editor must be signed originals and include the writer's address and phone number for verification. Letters should not exceed 300 words. *The Chart* reserves the right to edit or refuse letters on the basis of length, clarity, accuracy and liability.

Letters shall be edited to meet *Chart* and AP style guidelines and all letters will be given a headline appropriate to the subject.

Letters will be chosen for publication by *The Chart* editors according to space considerations.

# The Gockel International Symposium:

## Russia's Future and Why It Matters

# Putin's rule tops evening discussion of Russia today

## Khrushcheva agrees with Donaldson

By Chris Heinrich
International Editor

Former president of the University of Tulsa, Dr. Robert Donaldson spoke of Vladimir Putin's policies on Sept. 23 in Webster Hall auditorium.

Donaldson focused on three main issues: Putin's strengths, his loss of control and the ways Putin is part of the problem.

Putin is always being confronted with difficulties when it comes to the way people see him and the way Putin reacts to situation, he said.

"Putin is not entirely in control of Russia," he said.

Donaldson said Putin is part of the problem himself because when he is confronted with difficult situations, he does not make the difficult decisions.

Putin is striving to keep everybody satisfied, he said.

"Putin is not Stalin, and the bureaucracy is not afraid of [him]," he said.

Monetary issues are an endless setback to Russia and its need to be democratic.

"Russia's economy stands on an unstable base," Donaldson said.

Since security does not rely on law but on connections, he said, it is difficult for people to live autonomously.

"Putin's changes are sure to be adopted," he said. "It will take place."

"It is not a closed society, but it is not an open one either," he said. "It certainly could be worse."

Dr. Nina Khrushcheva spoke following Donaldson of the same topic.

She said Putin is "blurring political lines." Within his political power, he uses it relentlessly. Putin could use his power to delay or cancel the elections all together.

Khrushcheva said even though Putin is power driven, his Russia is a more humane place and a place for more development than ever before.

People like Putin because he provides stability, she said. But, where he has failed is in executing democratic governance.

"What Putin needs is a political party that stands for something rather than him," she said.

In reaction to the Soviet era, Khrushcheva said, Russia was not governed by strong people; it was governed by people who thought they were strong. "Strong leaders don't lead by force," she said.

"They understand there are other ways to do things."

Bill Shepherd/The Chart

**Dr. Nina Khrushcheva attends the reception and answers questions from Carole Seneker, senior speech communication major.**

# Premier's granddaughter lectures Southern

By Chris Heinrich
International Editor

Granddaughter of former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, Dr. Nina Khrushcheva spoke in the first Gockel International Symposium lecture on Sept. 23 in Taylor Performing Arts Center.

Her main focus was how Russians think and act differently than Americans and vice versa.

"The [Russian] capitalist hates the consumer, the consumer hates the capitalist," she said. "It is not like this in any other country."

Russians often imitate American capitalism when it comes to stores, restaurants and food among other things.

She exemplified the capitalist versus the consumer scenario by saying how when you first enter a restaurant, there are guards outside asking you what you want.

*"Don't despair. America doesn't understand Russia; Russia doesn't understand Russia either."*

*Dr. Nina Khrushcheva*

"You don't want to buy stamps, you want to eat," she said.

Then once inside if the consumer were to ask for a steak knife, the server looks at him as if asking for a sword.

Since Russia covers a wide array of land, 11 time zones in all, she said, it is difficult for even Russians to grasp all that Russia is.

"Don't despair. America doesn't understand Russia; Russia doesn't understand Russia either," she said.

"Russia is a frontier and imitation culture," she said.

"It is America's superpower rival."

Khrushcheva is a senior fellow of the World Policy Institute at New School University and adjunct associate professor at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

## RUSSIA SEMESTER EVENTS

**Tuesday**

- Russian Film Festival: *My Name is Ivan*, 7 p.m., Cornell Auditorium

**Thursday**

- Modest Mussorgsky: Nationalist, Realist, "Barbaric Genius, 8 a.m. and 9:30, Phinney Recital Hall

**Friday**

- Aleksandr Borodin: Chemist and Composer, 8 and 10 a.m., Phinney Recital Hall
- Pysanky: The Art of the Ukrainian Easter Egg, noon, BSC Room 310, faculty and staff only

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# Diversions

## Movie Monopoly

# Theaters deny students discount

By David Haut
Managing Editor

Missouri Southern students won't be selling out theaters anytime soon.

While a Southern ID may wield discount power at businesses such as Taco Bell and Tropical Tan, the movie theater is not one of them.

Unlike local universities who have discounts at their local movie theaters, Southern students face a different alternative.

Supersavers, a discounted movie coupon, are for sale for $5 at the ticket office in the Billingsly Student Center.

"The reason we do that is because our company sells our movie tickets directly to the University," said Aaron Eidson, assistant manager of Hollywood Theaters in Joplin. "We don't even have input in that; it's just handed down to us."

While they do offer students a discounted ticket price, Supersaver coupons are not accepted for certain movies during their first two weeks of release due to studio restrictions.

"Studio restrictions are in place so the first two weeks of the movie, [the studio] can make as much as they can to put toward their total box office earnings," Eidson said. "Opening weekend *Spider-man 2* made $80 million. That's because they didn't accept Supersavers or passes or anything else. The studio puts out a restriction for all companies."

Eidson said checkers from different studios make regular stops at his theater to check sales figures. Any suspicious sales, including unauthorized use of Supersavers, could get the theater in trouble.

This semester, Southern's ticket office has not had as large of a response to the Supersavers as it has had in the past.

"There seems to be a low interest this semester," said May Doll, ticket office manager. "From what I've read, the movies aren't real good this semester either."

Students who do take advantage of the discounted tickets wish they could simply show their student ID for a comparable discount, avoiding the extra step.

> *"The reason we do that is because our company sells our movie tickets directly to the University. We don't even have input in that; it's just handed down to us."*
>
> **Aaron Eidson**
> *Assistant Manager*
> *Hollywood Theaters in Joplin*

"Ticket office isn't always open," said Tyler Dow, freshman marketing major. "They're not open on Friday and Saturday nights."

Movie tickets are not the only reason students and local residents are talking about the theater. Questions pertaining to the movies that don't make their way to Joplin are also being asked.

"This area, our demographic, is the blockbuster movie," Eidson said. "We have bookers. They look at numbers, see what movies do well here, they decide what we get and don't get. We try to get every movie we can that people want, but sometimes things don't work out."

Eidson said special requests for movies can be made, but responses to those requests usually aren't very large.

In the past, when a movie comes that has been requested, it usually doesn't do much at the box office.

Hollywood Theaters is located at 201 Northpark Lane behind Northpark Mall. For movie information, call 625-1558. Supersavers passes are available at the ticket office at 625-9366.

# Historic stage offers locals chance to become actors

By James Marcum
Staff Writer

In today's society of advanced technology and special-effects cinematography, a person might argue America's appreciation for live theatre has long since died out. In southwest Missouri, however, there are a few people hard at work to make sure that such a thing never happens.

Joplin Little Theatre, along with support from many area people and organizations such as the Spiva Center for the Arts, the Missouri Council of the Arts and the "Angel Guild", has been bringing live theatre to the Joplin area for 66 years.

The oldest continuously running theater this side of the Mississippi, JLT was officially formed in November 1938 by a group which had been active in local amateur theater. The first production was *Bertha, the Beautiful Typewriter Girl*, in October 1939.

The theater has had a few various locations in Joplin since its creation. In June 1942, due to World War II, JLT closed its doors for 2 years, but members continued to perform, putting on shows for the 25,000 men in uniform stationed at Camp Crowder.

In 1946, JLT purchased an old riding academy building and 20 lots at First and Adams Streets near the tennis courts at Schifferdecker Park.

The building was renovated to accommodate theater seating, and an army-surplus Quonset hut was added for a stagehouse.

Although major constructions funded by the JLT's own income and upwards of $500,000 in donations have changed the look of the original building, JLT has kept its current location since that time. "There is nothing like live theater," said Cecie Fritz, musical director and 25-year veteran of the JLT whose favorite productions include *My Way*, a musical tribute to Frank Sinatra and *Chicago*.

It's nothing like a movie, the audience is actually involved with what's happening on stage, and there aren't any special effects, Fritz said.

Many Missouri Southern students have participated in the work of the JLT. Members of the JLT board of directors feel this is a great asset to the JLT, and a great way to let the students use there talents to benefit the community.

"We rely on Southern students," Fritz said. "You get anyone that has been trained by Dr. [Jay] Fields and you get someone who can act on stage."

The primary support for the continued work of the JLT has always been the people of Joplin and citizens from the four-state area. No outside help or funds from the state or federal government are used. JLT uses local actors and live music for all of its plays and usually has five plays per season, including two musicals. *Kiss the Girls Goodbye*, *Oklahoma*, *Showboat*, *My Fair Lady*, *The King and I*, *The Music Man*, *Fiddler on the Roof* and *West Side Story* are a few of the JLT's 262 total performances.

"In a community theater, you don't always know if you are going to get what you are looking for," Fritz said.

"But we have been pleasantly surprised by the caliber of talent that has come out of the Joplin area. Many of our actors have gone on to New York and are still acting today," she said.

Melissa Dunson/The Chart

**The cast of Joplin Little Theatre's current production, Dames at Sea, prepares mentally before opening night performance Sept. 28. The production focuses on a country girl named Ruby who arrives in New York to get a job as a chorus girl. Ruby ends up stealing the show and becomes a Broadway star.**

**Left, Joplin Little Theatre depends on the talents of local volunteer actors. The current cast of the new production "circle up" as part of the superstitious routine of opening night.**
**Right, to raise money, JLT sold tiles in their custom designed floor to area donors. The donors names are inscribed in the tiles in JLT's entry.**

Melissa Dunson/The Chart

*Joplin Little Theatre is the oldest continuously running live theater west of the Mississippi River. Its latest production, "Dames at Sea," opened Sept. 28. For information, read the story.*



# Funny Thing About Life...

**David Haut**

Managing Editor

I've been wondering something lately. Our University, which sends its students all over the world, a university in which a large number of faculty have Ph.D.'s, a university that hosts one of the largest piano competitions in the world, how is it that we neglect an important part of our culture and cleanliness? Why do we forget to flush the toilets?

There is only one thing I can think of that could possibly warrant a "no-flush" — pride. Some people, for some reason, wish to share their bodily function with everyone else. In the dozens of urinals I've used, I have not seen a urinary feat that could be deemed unflushable.

It's not a hard thing to do. The toilets do actually flush. I've seen kids in our bathroom who have flushed. One kid, who I'll call "Billy," flushed all of the toilets when he was in the bathroom. He wasn't even tall enough to use the urinal. He had to arc it (any guy who has been to Chiefs game knows what I'm talking about). We should all try and be like Billy (arcing optional).

Bathroom behavior, as a whole, is out of whack. Males don't talk to each other in the bathroom. They stare ahead, keep to themselves and leave. The only real male bathroom communication is "the nod." For those of you unaware of the nod (women), it is a small vertical movement of the head, saying, "Hey man, what's up? I want to say something, but because we're in the bathroom, people might think weird things about me." The other male responds with another nod, meaning "Yeah, I know. I'm OK. Talk to me outside."

Women, from what I understand, love to talk in the bathroom. They go in in packs, like Boy Scouts. They go to the bathroom even when they don't have to go. I know this because women will openly admit this when they're going with the pack. Maybe there's a secret female bathroom club men have no idea about.

Women can often be seen coming out of the bathroom laughing. This is a big no-no in the male bathroom community. Doing so could be taken as a severe challenge to somebody's manhood.

Another thing I've noticed about guys in the bathroom is their reluctance to wash their hands. I don't understand this. Their hands have just been on the most objectionable part of their body. Why not wash? One instructor has told me when I see someone leave the bathroom without washing his hands, I should pee on his leg. Even if I did that, I would wash my hands afterward.

So, as a message to bathroom users everywhere, please flush, wash your hands, and guys, respect the nod.

*David Haut, Managing Editor, writes a weekly humor column for* The Chart. *His opinions are his own and don't necessarily reflect those of* The Chart *staff.*

Melissa Dunson/The Chart

**Lacy Criss, 20, Webb City, manager on duty at Romancing the Stone adjusts a display of tie-dyed sarongs, shirts and dresses, sandals, totes and coconut purses and bras.**

# Specialty store invites employees, customers into exotic experience

Melissa Dunson/The Chart

**Above, Romancing the Stone, the local specialty import store, carries foreign items such as a three-and-a-half foot tall dragon, handcarved from a solid piece of teakwood. The dragon would normally be sold for $2,400, but is on sale for $1,200.**

**Below, the store also carries an extensive selection of paper and cloth lanterns in a variety of shapes including stars, large and small spheres, cylinders and rectangles.**

**By Melissa Dunson**

Diversions Editor

Barefoot employees draped in sarongs and Hawaiian shirts parade through incense-thick air, singing to each other and teasing customers.

Is this a scene from a bar on some exotic vacation destination? This is the world of the specialty import store Romancing the Stone.

"Honestly, at least five or six people a day come and tell me how cool it is," said Lacy Criss, 20, Webb City, manager on duty.

The store opened in Northpark Mall in April to crowds of eager local shoppers mesmerized by the dramatic and exotic merchandise it offers. Criss said the store offers Joplin something the area was missing. The only other store in town offering similar items is Pier 1 Imports, and Criss said customers would pay significantly more there than at Romancing the Stone.

"Everything in our store is handmade and imported," Criss said. "It's not made on a line, not like Wal-Mart."

The store carries miscellaneous specialty items including home decor, gifts, jewelry and clothing. Coiled stalks of bamboo and hermit crabs crowd one corner, paper lanterns and journals made from pressed leaves another.

A wall of carved masks stands guard in the rear of the store and a wall full of whimsical mirrors reflects the bright colored beads, jewels and paper umbrellas hanging from the ceiling. The store is full of foreign images like Buddhas. Criss said most people don't have a problem with the statues and realize they are mainly for decoration.

Part of the store's appeal is its physical atmosphere. Employees aren't required to wear shoes and can wear any of the merchandise in the store while working, including sarongs, coconut bras, Hawaiian shirts and jewelry. During busy hours exotic music blasts so loudly that employees must shout to each other to communicate.

"The whole basis of the store is to have fun," Criss said. "We're supposed to give the customers a hard time and tease them. We have head massagers that we sneak up on them and use, and we throw things at them."

The result is an environment that people enjoying being in, not just shopping. Criss said the store gets more people interested in just browsing than actually shopping.

"I've had people come in who said they just came in to get relaxed," Criss said. "They like the atmosphere with the incense and the music."

Other employees enjoy the atmosphere as well. Josh Labidie, 16, Joplin; Ashlea Baldwin, 18, Sarcoxie and Stephanie Halliwill, 30, Louisiana, work at Romancing the Stone and find it so enjoyable they are willing to put up with less than perfect co-workers and customers.

The environment is awesome," she said. "You meet a lot of new people and they're weird, but cool."

CAB

**Campus Activities Board**

# T-shirt madness leads students to ponder ideas

**By David Haut**

Managing Editor

After weeks of consecutive events, the Campus Activities Board settled down to its first "normal" meeting.

Julie Blackford, director of student activities, was not present for the meeting. Instead, Carla Fairbanks, resident director, took her place.

"We'll do a lot of planning [next week]," Fairbanks said. "We can't really plan much without Julie."

The Board discussed ideas for the upcoming semester such as pudding wrestling, karaoke and a casino night.

Members also talked about different options for handing out free T-shirts. During Homecoming week, free T-shirts were handed out at a volleyball game and the campus picnic. Both events had a crowd of T-shirt-hungry students shoving and grabbing for one.

"We're trying to revamp how we'll hand them out," Fairbanks said. "It's the best thing we do, but it's becoming a mob."

Ideas included punch cards or tickets that would be given away during a week's events.

Fairbanks and members of CAB are apolo-

TURN TO **CAB**, PAGE 8

# Area Events

**1**

*Ladder 49* and *Shark Tale* open at the Northstar 14 Theaters.

Woodshed, Kentucky 31 and No Apparent Reason concert @ 7:30 p.m. @ Emporium in Carthage.

Al Green concert @ 8 p.m. @ Juanita K. Hammons Hall in Springfield.

Deep Roots Music Festival @ Shadow Moon Park.

**2**

Glory Days "Live Music Cafe" @ 8 p.m @ Glory Days Music.

Joplin Humane Society Pet Pics holiday photos @ 10 a.m.-2 p.m. @ Joplin Memorial Hall.

Barnyard Days @ 8:30 a.m. @ Circle R. Ranch.

Republic Pumpkin Daze @ 8 a.m. @ Main Street in Republic, Mo.

Deep Roots Music Festival @ Shadow Moon Park.

**3**

Karaoke @ 9 p.m. @ Murphy's Irish Pub.

Six Pack Music Festival @ Noon-8 p.m. @ Under Cliff Campground.

**4**

Negative Pleasure art exhibit by Dan Scott @ 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. @ Barnett Fine Art & Design Gallery @ Evangel University in Springfield.

**5**

Karaoke @ 10 p.m. @ The Green Room.

CAB meeting @ 2 p.m. @ 2nd floor BSC.

The Pixies concert @ The Hearne's Center in Kansas City.

**6**

Krazy Karaoke @ 9 p.m. @ Champ's Bar and Grill

Campus Crusade for Christ @ 7:30 p.m. @ the Student Life Center.

BSU Joy Explosion @ 7 p.m @ The Baptist Student Union.

**7**

Jazz concert @ 7 p.m. @ Dioko Coffee Co.

Karaoke @ 9 p.m. @ Champs Pub & Grill.

Maple Leaf Festival begins in Carthage.

## Weird News:

**Kid brings pot to show and tell**

NASHVILLE — A Head Start teacher was surprised when a 4-year-old brought a small bag of marijuana with him to preschool. The youngster said it came from his mother. The mother agreed to take a drug test after being questioned by police, but denied ever giving pot to her son.

http://www.tennessean.com/local/archives

**Naked pirate disturbs the peace**

NEW ZEALAND — A 28-year-old man was arrested for lying naked on a roof and using a rolled up magazine as a telescope after ingesting a hallucinogenic drug.

http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/

# SENATE:

*From Page 2*

would help retention rates.

Senators discussed the idea for 10 minutes to make sure incoming freshmen and newer senators knew about the project and what had been done so far on the project.

Ducommun, who also approved of the idea, recommended senators pick up the results of the survey report from last semester. Afterward, the Senate moved to create a resolution to back the center and take the resolution to the Governors.

The meeting also saw the filling of two vacant spots at the Senate table. Three spots were available after one member voted in during the Sept. 21 meeting was not eligible for a position.

The final position is open for any student who wishes to join with Senate approval.

The meeting ended with a proposal to bring a recycling bin to the meetings and Ducommun thanking the senators for their ideas.

"Thank you guys so much for this meeting," he said. "I like to see people challenge authority because it shows that they are thinking, not because it is rebellious."

# CHOICES:

*From Page 4*

others."

Democracy is messy, and messiness tends to turn off the idealism of young people. Thus they opt out altogether.

Here's my advice: don't wait for the system or the politicians in it to become perfect. They won't. But they will be a little less unbearable if they know more people are keeping an eye on them.

Much is at stake in every election, but there's never been more on the line for Americans in general and young Americans in particular than on Nov. 2. And young people, especially those in swing states like Missouri, have the opportunity to make the difference.

There are already some encouraging signs: young voter turnout increased almost 60 percent in last year's New Hampshire Democratic primary. Four times as many 18-to-24 year olds turned out for the 2004 Iowa caucuses than in 2000 caucus, and there were also increases in turnout for the primaries across the country. In a poll taken in October 2003, 39 percent of people aged 17 to 24 were "absolutely certain" they would vote in the 2004 elections, 30 percent higher than its highest point a year before the 2000 elections.

Will students on this campus be part of a historic renewal of interest in politics, civics and citizenship? Will they demand that politicians address their concerns, safeguard their futures and consider their needs? Or will they continue to allow others to make decisions which will affect virtually every aspect of the life they have ahead of them?

Let's just say there's a whole lot more at stake in these questions than whether we'll be afflicted by Ruben Studdard or Clay Aiken.

# CAB:

*From Page 7*

getic to students who were unable to get one. Students often take advantage of the free shirts and many walk away with more than one.

Upcoming events include local astronaut Janet Kavandi, performing at 10 a.m. on Oct. 21 in Webster Auditorium, ghost hunter John Zaffis at 7 p.m. in Connor Auditorium the same night and *Last Comic Standing* contestant Tammy Pescatelli, performing at 7 p.m. on Oct. 26 in Taylor Auditorium.

Blackford said she will devote the next meeting to finalizing the fall semester's activities and plan events for the spring.

"Right now, we're just trying to get a breather," she said. "We hope to have the fall semester hammered out [next week] and have spring planned by Dec. 1."

CAB is discussing a possible string of comedians to come on a monthly basis as oppose to one large speaker that would consume a large portion of their budget.

CAB is looking into different comedians to come to Southern in the spring.

Anyone with concerns or ideas for CAB is invited to attend their weekly meetings at 2 p.m. on Wednesdays in the Student Activities Office on the second floor of Billingsly Student Center.

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## A ROYAL COURT

T.J. Gerlach/The Chart

**Homecoming King Derick White and Queen Ashley Cox stand with University President Julio León and his wife Vivian during halftime at the Sept. 24 football game. Cox and White both represented the Freshmen Orientation Leaders organization .**

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September 04

# AMENDMENT:

*From Page 1*

holes are opened," Hite said. "It's not that we're saying people can't love each other, but where will we draw the line in the future."

Hite said because of the high voter turnout and the margin by which the initiative passed, he thinks the view of Missouri citizens was accurately represented.

"It effectively reflects the beliefs of the area, the people of Missouri were clear," he said. "I believe the government is of the people, so if that's the will of the people, then it will get done."

Many Missourians are more concerned about the moral and religious issues rather than the legal questions raised by the concept of gay marriage. Phil Gloyer, director of the Baptist Student Union, thinks the definition of marriage of is one man and one woman and the union is more than a secular approval. It is a union God participates in.

"I don't consider it a ban on gay marriage, it's not making it illegal, because gay marriage doesn't exist," Goyer said. "The amendment is just a reaffirmation of the definition of marriage that's existed for thousands of years."

The major problem, in Goyer's opinion, is gay marriage represents a symptom of the destruction of marriage and the family that emphasizes personal sexual pleasure over sexual responsibility.

But Hare disagrees, citing the 2002 U.S. Census finding 50 percent of all marriages end in divorce.

> *"...if gays can get married, Britney Spears can still get married and divorced three days later"*
>
> **Jason Hare**
> *President, B-GLAD*

"Why would they say to me that I'm ruining marriage, when they're the ones getting divorced," Hare said. "Don't worry, if gays can get married, Britney Spears will still be allowed to get married and divorced three days later. Yeah, marriage is so sacred."

Michelle Parks, sophomore international studies major, agrees with Hare and doesn't understand the argument denying gays the right of marriage based on its destruction of the definition of marriage.

"It's not really an issue of it making it less sacred," Parks said. "It's not to confer any religious recognition on the coupling, it's that if you don't have a marriage certificate, you don't have certain rights. It's not about the sacredness or lack thereof. They just want their legal rights."

Parks is the treasurer of B-GLAD, but is not homosexual and yet still supports the idea of gay marriage simply on the principle of love as an abstract free idea.

"I don't think anybody has a right to tell people who they can fall in love with and have a family with," she said. "All families are created equal regardless of the two people's genders."

This issue divides the campus, nation and the White House. President George W. Bush supports a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage, while Vice President Dick Cheney, who's daughter is openly gay, disagrees and said the issue should be left to the individual states' discretions, but added he would support Bush's decision. Presidential candidate John Kerry opposes a constitutional amendment, but also opposes gay marriage and supports state bans

# FIGURES:

*From Page 1*

institutions in the area have. They say this is a reason many students have chosen to come to Southern instead of going to another institute.

Skaggs said the Board's early decision to keep rates the same helped as well, because financial aid packages could be created earlier in the year.

Both Skaggs and León said the small classroom sizes work to contribute to students' decisions to come to Southern.

**Dr. Julio León**
University President

"I certainly want them (the students) to know and [I] am convinced that they've made the right choice in coming to Missouri Southern," León said. "All they need to do is their part and study."

The number of transfer students also increased from 322 students to 424 students. Skaggs said the admissions department and a new transfer recruiter position have also contributed to the increase.

# WIRELESS:

*From Page 1*

He had been working on the project for some time, but did not know the approval was going to come as soon as it did.

The Billingsly Student Center and the Student Life Center will be the next buildings on the list to receive access.

The older residence halls will receive access after the BSC and the SLC, and East Hall will be last of the buildings because there are enough wired ports for Internet access in the hall for every student living there.

Earney said wireless ports will be placed in as many spots as possible while the budget lasts.

Then, next year, the rest of the campus will have ports added to it.

"It's not really an exact science," Earney said.

Earney said he could not be sure of the specifics of the total installation because the access ports are new and the range has yet to be determined.

Each port should allow students wireless access for more than 300 ft but are dependent on the conditions of their position.

In order for a student to use his or her wireless computer, the student must register the computer's wireless chip's access identification number with the computer lab or library.

Earney said a register will be available soon after the installation in the library is complete.

"It's really not a list to exclude the academically related things, just a list to exclude the non-academic things," he said.

McGrane said the library would be in cooperation with any regulations and registrations which will be required for the access.

Registration will be open to students and faculty, as well as speakers and anyone invited to speak or proctor an event.

Earney said it might be possible for community members to register, but he is not certain yet.

He also reminded students to be careful of a current outbreak of computer viruses which have hit several computers in the residence halls.

Students should make sure their computers are off or not connected to the Internet when the students are not working on the computers.

Students who keep their computers connected may become infected or spread a virus.

"You're (students) not being a good citizen," Earney said.

Free virus protection software is available in the computer center in Matthews Hall.


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- FedEx Ground
- Forest Institute of Professional Psychology
- Freeman Health System
- Internal Revenue Service
- **Jack Henry & Associates**
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- KMXL Mix 95.1/KDMO Fabulous 1490
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- Missouri Department of Natural Resources
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| **10:00 a.m.** | Private Accounting | Careers in Biology and Environmental Health | Careers in Finance and Economics | Computer Science: News from recent Graduates | Careers in Public Relations |
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## LION STATS

### Football

**Sept. 25 Results**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MWSC | 0 | 15 | 0 | 6 | — 21 |
| MSSU | 3 | 10 | 7 | 3 | — 23 |

**First Quarter**
MSSU — Hawkins 31 yd field goal 6:39.

**Second Quarter**
MWSC — Burns 29 yd run (Rivera kick) 11:56. MSSU — Taylor 23 yd pass from Emert (Hawkins kick) 5:18. MWSC — Schoonover 17 yd run (Westerberg rush) 3:16. MSSU — Hawkins 32 yd field goal 00:18.

**Third Quarter**
MSSU — Mason 17 yd pass from Emert (Hawkins kick) 00:07.

**Fourth Quarter**
MWSC — Burns 24 yd run (Richardson pass failed) 12:36. MSSU — Hawkins 23 yd field goal 00:22.

### Women's Soccer

**Sept. 26 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TSU | 1 | 0 | — 1 |
| MSSU | 0 | 0 | — 0 |

TSU Scoring: Wright (Benson) 26:30.
MSSU Scoring: none.

### Men's Soccer

**Sept. 24 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WTAMU | 0 | 1 | — 1 |
| MSSU | 0 | 0 | — 0 |

WTAMU Scoring: Connell (Otor) 66:24.
MSSU Scoring: none.

**Sept. 25 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ENMU | 0 | 1 | — 1 |
| MSSU | 0 | 0 | — 0 |

ENMU Scoring: Robinson (unassisted) 50:08.
MSSU Scoring: none.

**Sept. 29 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JBU | 2 | 2 | - 4 |
| MSSU | 0 | 0 | — 0 |

JBU Scoring: Fleming (Wierck) 4:44. Juliao (Fleming) 8:16. Fleming (Carter) 56:06. Fleming (Carter) 64:32.
MSSU Scoring: none.

### Volleyball

**Sept. 24 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MSSU | 19 | 22 | 28 |
| ESU | 30 | 30 | 30 |

**Sept. 25 Results**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MSSU | 22 | 15 | 21 |
| CMSU | 30 | 30 | 30 |

**Sept. 29 Results**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| MSSU | 30 | 27 | 25 | 30 | 15 |
| MWSC | 22 | 30 | 30 | 25 | 9 |

## Volleyball suffers twice, wins one on road tour

**From Staff Reports**

Despite a close match with Washburn on Sept. 22, the Lions volleyball team suffered consecutive sweeps.

With losses to Emporia State University on Sept. 24 and Central Missouri State University on Sept. 25, the Lions record moves 5-9, 1-3 in the MIAA.

Missouri Southern bounced back with a 3-2 win in St. Joseph against Missouri Western State College.

The Lions have home games on Oct. 1 against Truman State and Oct. 2 against Northwest.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

**Midfielder J.P. West races down the field in search of an open teammate Sept. 25.**

T.J. Gerlach/The Chart

**Dushan Gorechan heads the ball during the Sept. 29 game against John Brown University.**

Andy Tevis/The Chart

**Forward Seamus O'Donnell, above, battles with some opponents from Eastern New Mexico Sept. 25.**

# Losing streak continues

## Men's soccer creates opportunities, fails to capitalize to find net

**By T.J. Gerlach**
Editor-in-Chief

Losing its fifth straight match, the Missouri Southern men's soccer team fell to John Brown University 4-0 Sept. 29.

"It's a disappointing loss," said Patrick Hill, junior midfielder.

The Golden Eagles first goal came in the fifth minute. The second goal followed a short three minutes later.

The Lions held the Golden Eagles scoreless for the remainder of the first half. JBU earned a total of nine shots to Southern's five in the first half.

Kiley Cirillo, head men's soccer coach, said he thought the Lions were able to create some opportunities.

"You've got to capitalize on the opportunities given to you," Cirillo said.

In the second half, JBU scored again in the 57th minute and followed with their final goal in the 65th minute. The Golden Eagles earned another 14 shots in the second half, and the Lions shot another five.

Travis Haight, sophomore goalkeeper, earned six saves in the game.

JBU committed 21 fouls to Southern's nine.

"We've been passing the ball around really well, but we just can't find the net," Hill said.

Hill said the team is down after the recent losses.

"We've just got to keep our heads up and push forward," he said.

Cirillo said at this point it is difficult to keep the team energized. He said the team is not only losing mental focus but the players need to find their internal drive again.

"The team is down," he said. "We're like wounded duck. You've got to believe you can do it."

Cirillo said the team's last "anything" was the 2-2 tie against the University of Incarnate Word.

"We're in every game," Cirillo said. "This game doesn't necessarily represent every game.

On Sept. 24, the Lions lost to the West Texas A&M University Buffalo, 1-0. The Buffalo scored the only goal of the game in the 66th minute.

On Sept. 25, Eastern New Mexico University came to Southern. The Greyhounds defeated the Lions 1-0 with the only goal coming in the 51st minute.

Southern's next game will be at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Bodon Field against Northeastern (Oklahoma) State University.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

**Ashley Turner uses her head during the Sept. 26 game against Truman State University.**

Andy Tevis/The Chart

**Three Lions work together to overcome Truman's Katie Ruefer.**

# Truman defeats women

**From Staff Reports**

On Sept. 26, the Missouri Southern's women's soccer team took on the Truman State Bulldogs at Bodon Field.

With a goal by Ellen Wright in the 27th minute, the Bulldogs defeated the Lions, 1-0, continuing its undefeated record.

Trevor Wachsman, women's head coach, said TSU is ranked No. 3 in the nation.

He said the Bulldogs only blemish this season is the tie against the Lions on Sept. 6.

"We were able to do a lot of things we've been working on," Wachsman said. "We were able to play the way we wanted to play."

He said he thought the team played really well.

Washburn University will be the next challenge for the Lions. That game will be at 3 p.m. Saturday at Bodon Field.

Then the Lions play Northeastern (Oklahoma) State University 5 p.m. Wednesday also at Bodon Field.

"We're going into every game with a lot of confidence and expecting to do well," Wachsman said.

He said after NSU, all games will be MIAA conference games.

# Field goal caps game for win

By Jacob W. Brower
Staff Writer

Missouri Southern snapped a six-year losing streak against Missouri Western State College on Sept. 25, escaping with a 23-21 Homecoming win over the reigning conference co-champions.

The Lions improved their record to 2-1 in the MIAA and 3-2 overall, while the Griffons fell to 1-2 in the MIAA and 2-3 for the season.

In a game that saw the lead change six times, the victory was decided by a 23-yard field goal kicked by sophomore Brandon Hawkins with 22 seconds left in the game. MWSC's Jerrett Brooks took the ensuing kickoff 41 yards and the Griffons attempted a 34-yard field goal with five seconds left in the game, but the attempt was wide right, giving the Lions the ball and the win.

Southern head coach John Ware said he was glad the estimated crowd of 5,214 got to see an exciting Homecoming victory.

"I'm glad to give the community of Joplin and Missouri Southern an exciting game where we come out with a win," Ware said. "That hasn't happened in this stadium in a long time, and it's something the fans deserve."

"I'm just glad it worked out so well," said Southern offensive coordinator Keeth Matheny. "There was a lot of drama in this one. Down the road, you don't tell stories about how you won 51-0 to a no-good team, you talk about the close games like this that were decided by a field goal."

Hawkins said he was nervous when called on to kick but relieved when his attempt went through the uprights. He hit two field goals from 31 and 32 yards earlier in the game, but missed a 32-yard attempt in the first quarter that would have given the Lions a 6-0 lead.

"I had the jitters but it wasn't that bad," Hawkins said. "I was definitely relieved when it went through."

"That kick is something that kid (Hawkins) won't forget, and it's something the team won't forget," Ware said. "I'm very happy with the way that young man was able to step up and deliver for us today."

Ware said he believes the victory will give the team confidence going into the second half of the season.

"Our kids needed a win like that," Ware said. "They played with a lot of pride and a lot of heart. We're still not where we want to be in a lot of areas, but we're on the right track."

Despite the close score, Southern led the game in almost every offensive category. The Lions' 513 offensive yards were 202 more than the Griffons, and Southern converted 25 first downs, seven more than MWSC.

Freshman quarterback Nathan Emert connected with a couple of reserve wide receivers for the Lions only touchdowns of the game. He found freshman Otis Taylor for 23 yards with 5:18 left in the first half and connected with junior Tedaryl Mason for a 17-yard score with seven seconds left in the third, giving the Lions a five-point lead going into the fourth quarter.

Emert completed 65 percent of his passes for 335 yards and one interception, adding 23 yards rushing, while sophomore running back Wentric Williams recorded 121 yards on the ground and added five catches for 50 yards.

Junior Tyson Basore set the pace for Lions receivers, snagging seven balls for 53 yards, while senior wide receiver Craig Winfrey had six catches for 61 yards.

Senior wide receiver DeMarcus Mathes recorded five catches for 83 yards, Mason had five catches for 36 yards, senior tight end Cody Kilburn recorded four catches for 37 yards, Taylor had two catches for 38 yards, and freshman wide receiver Colin Bado recorded a 12-yard reception.

On defense, junior linebacker Atiba Bradley had one forced fumble and one fumble recovery and shared the team lead at 10 tackles with sophomore cornerback Moses Manga. Manga had the Lions' only sack of the day, and he and senior cornerback Robert Spinks each recorded an interception.

The Lions travel to Kirksville on Saturday to take on the winless Truman State Bulldogs.

Andy Tevis/The Chart

**Teammates congratulate place kicker Brandon Hawkins after he kicked a 23-yard field goal with 22 seconds left on the clock in the last quarter of the Homecoming game against Missouri Western State College. Hawkins along with teammate Moses Manga earned MIAA players of the week.**

# Freshman psychology major brings life to mascot

Adam Fast/The Chart

**Will Siegfried says he has learned much since taking on the job of the Lion Mascot this semester.**

By Hallie Hocker
Staff Writer

Behind the mask of the 6-foot-6 king of the jungle, Will Siegfried brings the roar into Leo the Lion's life.

While Siegfried, a freshman psychology major, didn't come to Southern to fill the shoes of Leo the mascot, he definitely took the role of Southern's beloved lion.

Siegfried has had several different reactions to his character.

"At the Harding game, 10 kids attacked me at the same time," he said.

Siegfried said he thinks the new mascot suit is less ferocious and a lot more kid-friendly than the old suit.

Kids aren't the only ones who are attracted to Siegfried as he masquerades as Leo. While in the suit, he has been hit on by women and invited to a party by some men. He even had a fan call him "Favre" since Leo's jersey is similar to that of Brett Favre of the Green Bay Packers.

Despite whatever reactions he receives, Siegfried said he does it for the fans.

"I'm there to make the fans happy," he said. "The mascot pumps up the crowd: the crowd pumps up the players."

Siegfried heard about the mascot position from a friend who was Southern's mascot last year. He also knew the former and current cheerleading coaches.

"It sounded like fun," he said. "I get to meet new people. It's something good to get involved in — it's not math or quiz bowl."

Siegfried loves that he's a cheerleader. This summer he attended a Universal Cheerleaders Association camp at Southwest Missouri State University along with Southern's cheerleaders and dance team members.

"I learned how to be a mascot and not just a guy in a suit," he said. "I also learned how to animate the character."

> *"At the Harding game, 10 kids attacked me at the same time."*
>
> **Will Siegfried**
> *Freshman*
> *Psychology Major*

Siegfried said he also learned about the physical limits that a mascot has. To help control the body heat in the suit, there is a fan inside the top of the head that runs off of two 9-Volt batteries. Before every game, he also inserts ice packs into the suit to keep him cool.

However, sometimes even this isn't enough.

"At the first home game, I ended up taking a break in the third quarter," he said. "My ice was body temperature and I chugged water like a mad dog. It gets hot, and you sweat a lot. You have to know your limits."

Siegfried also brings brains to Leo's brawn as a member of Southern's Honors Program. With a degree in psychology, he plans on becoming a psychiatrist.

He said he wants to treat people with everyday problems.

Outside his alter-ego as Leo, Siegfried enjoys computer games and just having a good time.

Siegfried one of the best parts about college is that he can sleep whenever and however he wants.

Between sleeping, honors classes and role playing as Leo the mascot, Siegfried finds a way to do it all.

"You have to take every day one at a time," he said.